(c) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is the nodal Ministry responsible for the welfare of the senior citizens. It has announced the National Policy on Older Persons in the year 1999 which recognizes a person who has attained the age of 60 plus as a senior citizen. The Ministry has taken up the matter of recognizing senior citizens as persons aged 60 years and above with the concerned Ministries/Departments. However, different Ministries/Departments have taken their own decision as regards age for extending facilities/concessions based on commercial and other considerations.

**Reservation for OBC inTripura**

2829. SHRI MATILALSARKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the States where reservation for OBC people has not been in force;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether It is a fact that Tripura can not introduce reservation for OBC as 50 per cent quota has already been exhausted; and

(d) whether Government would decide upon bringing an amendment in the Constitution to provide reservation for OBC people in the State services of Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI NAGMANI):(a) and (b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement. (See below)

(c) The Government of Tripura has provided 47% reservation out of which 16% is for Scheduled Caste and 31 % for Scheduled Tribes in Civil Post and Services under the State Government. In view of Supreme Court Judgement in the Indira Sawhney and Others Vs. Union of India & Others, the total reservation cannot exceed 50%.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

***Statement***

*Reservation for OBC in Tripura to be answered on 18.08.2003*

*Reservation is not in force in the following States due to the reasons indicaied against each.*

| State/UT | Reasons |
|---|---|
| *State:* | |
| 1. Arunachal Pradesh | |
| 2. Meghalaya | |
| 3. Mizoram | No OBC Population |
| 4. Nagaland | |
| 5. Manipur | Percentage of reservation has not yet been fixed by the State Government. |
| 6. Tripura | Percentage of reservation has not been fixed in view of overall ceiling of 50% prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. |
| *Union Territory:* | |
| 7. Andaman and Nicobar Islands | OBC Population is yet to be identified. |
| 8. Lakshadweep | No OBC Population. |

**Eviction of tribals**

2830. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale eviction of tribals from their land;

(b) whether Government propose to bring a legislation in order to check such eviction;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. However, the issue of 'Land' and its management falls exclusively under the administrative and legislative jurisdiction of the respective State Governments. Most of the State Governments have already enacted laws for prevention of alienation of tribal land. Moreover,